

Message Text

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62

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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P 060349Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 421

UNCLAS MANILA 1619

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, RP

SUBJECT: MULTI-REGITNAL PROJECT ON STATE GOVERNMENT

REF: (A) STATE 262785

(B) MANILA 14256

(C) STATE 012361

1. POST NOMINATES PALAWAN GOVERNOR SALVADOR SOCRATES, UNDERSECRETARY IN DEPT. OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, FOR PROJECT PARTICIPATION UNDER REGIONAL FUNDING. BORN 1933 IN LA CARLOTA CITY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, RECEIVED BACHELOR OF LAW DEGREE IN 1958 FROM UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES. SOCRATES BECAME GOVERNOR OF PALAWAN IN 1967, NAMED TO PRESENT POST IN JANUARY 1974. MISSION CONSIDERS HIM LINCHPIN IN ALL ASPECTS OF PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

2. EMBASSY ASSURED OF SOCRATES' DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE; HOWEVER, HE HAS NOT YET OBTAINED FINAL TRAVEL CLEARANCE. IF SOCRATES ULTIMATELY UNAVAILABLE, FOLLOWING ALTERNARES WOULD PROFITABLY REPRESENT PHILIPPINES:

A. RAUL P. DE GUZMAN, 44- YEAR OLD DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES CENTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. DE GUZMAN'S SCHOOL IS INFLUENTIAL IN TRAINING YOUNG OFFICIALS AND HE HIMSELF IS IN GREAT DEMAND TO SERVE ON GOP SPECIAL COMMISSSIONS AND COMMITTEES. HE WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE ACADEMIC/MILITARY-GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE THAT STUDIED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A

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PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE FORCE. HE IS INTELLIGENT,

SOPHISTICATED AND IS INCREASINGLY IN A POSITION TO INFLUENCE NATIONAL PROGRAMS AND LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION. HE RECEIVED A FULBRIGHT GRANT IN 1954 AND AN EAST-WEST CENTER GRANT IN 1962.

B. JOSE TECSON, GOVERNOR OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR AND PRESIDENTIAL REGIONAL ACTION OFFICER FOR WESTERN MINDANAO. TECSON IS YOUNG, INTELLIGENT, VERY DYNAMIC AND HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL ADMINISTRATOR OF HIS DISSIDENT TROUBLED PROVINCE. HE IS A LAWYER, FORMER VICE GOVERNOR, AND FORMER MAYOR OF HIS HOME TOWN OF AURORA (POPULATION 26,000). TECSON IS WELL THOUGHT OF BY MALACANANG AND BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN HIS PROVINCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA01619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750042-0985
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750267/aaaachyg.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 262785
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by McShalBA>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTI-REGITNAL PROJECT ON STATE GOVERNMENT
TAGS: OEXC, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006